

White Pass Community Services Coalition

dba LEWIS Mt. Hwy. Transit

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Morton, WA 98356

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October 31, 2014

Brian Lagerberg
Director Public Transportation Division – WSDOT

WSDOT Public Transportation Division
PO Box 47387
Olympia, WA 98504-7387

RE: Letter of Support on behalf of Lewis Public Transportation Benefit Area dba Twin Transit (TT).

Dear Mr. Lagerberg:

As Executive Director of White Pass Community Services Coalition, we manage LEWIS Mt. Hwy. Transit (LMHT) system which connects directly into the Twin Transit service area, we very much support the (2) projects being submitted by LPTBA(Twin Transit (TT)) to WSDOT for the 2015 – 2017 Public Transportation Consolidated Grant Cycle.

These projects include:

1. General Operating Assistance to preserve existing fixed route and paratransit bus service.
2. Capital Assistance to purchase two (2) replacement light-duty gas-powered buses for ADA complementary paratransit service.

I must say, that in the past 17 years of interacting with a variety of LPTBA (TT) management and staff, it wasn't until Mr. LaFontaine (Rob) became general manager that I could say that WPCSC's was able to establish and maintain a very positive and effective working relationship with both TT management and staff. It's not uncommon for TT staff to contact our staff or our drivers directly if a TT bus will be a little behind schedule in making its connection with LMHT's vehicles, if they know a passenger is needing to transfer. With this advanced communication between systems, our drivers are able to hold back and allow a successful transfer to occur.

It's at this level of coordination among providers that passengers really benefit. The level of openness and honesty that Rob LaFontaine presents can only be but a positive force in Lewis County's long quest to increase transportation options throughout the county. For these reasons, WPCSC supports TT's request to WSDOT for a favorable review of these two projects.

Sincerely,

White Pass Community Services Coalition, dba LEWIS Mt. Hwy. Transit

Douglas H. Hayden, Executive Director